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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
10/764,498	01/27/2004	Matthew J. Blackford	221P127US01	6261		
75	90 11/16/2006		EXAM	EXAMINER		
IPLM Group, P.A.			CHIN SHUI	CHIN SHUE, ALVIN C		
Post Office Box 18455 Minneapolis, MN 55418			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
r			3634			
			DATE MAILED: 11/16/2006			

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner			Application No.	Applicant(s)			
As Hortened Status As Hort	Office Action Summary		10/764,498	BLACKFORD ET AL.	BLACKFORD ET AL.		
Previol for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS. WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Cambinote of them may be available under the provides of 37 CPR 1 1300, in no work, however, may a reply the limiting date of this communication of the maintain statutory period will apply and will express IX (s) MONTHS from the maining date of this communication if NO period for reply is specified above, the maintain statutory period will apply and will express IX (s) MONTHS from the maining date of this communication if NO period for reply is specified above, the maintain statutory period will apply and will express IX (s) MONTHS from the maining date of this communication. Plants or the proposation to become ARAMONDEO (30 U.S.C. § 130). Status Status Status 1) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-12 and 17-25 is/are pending in the application. 4) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 5) Claim(s) is/are are jected. 7) Claim(s) is/are are plected. 7) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) 1-12 and 17-25 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) Charles of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17 2(a)). 13 Notice of Tratspersors Patent Drawing Review (PT0-948) 14 Notice o			Examiner	Art Unit			
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This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: the hook or loop connecting member and the beam 124 or loop anchorage member (in the election dated 3/29/06 applicant elected the loop connecting member and the loop anchorage member, but the loop connecting member is for the beam 124 anchorage member, while the loop anchorage member is for the hook connecting member). The species are independent or distinct because they comprise distinct connecting and anchorage members, respectively.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-4,9,10,17-20,23-25 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added.

An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR

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1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin C. Chin-Shue whose telephone number is

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571-272-6828. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on 571-272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alvin C. Chin-Shue

Examiner

Art Unit 3634